WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Unclaimed money lying with LIC

*181. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total unclaimed money lying with the LIC throughout the country as on date;

(b) the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to hand over the money to the rightful owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) The Corporation's Annual Account do not contain separately cumulative consolidated account of all outstanding unclaimed amounts as at the end of a financial year. The unclaimed amounts for a specific year, however, are reflected in 'Written Back Accounts' for that year. Details of Written Back Accounts for the last ten years are enclosed in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 184, Annexure No. 42].

(b) Unclaimed money with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) is generated for a variety of reasons of which the more important ones are as under:

(i) Amounts due to policyholders/ legal heirs/nominees/beneficiaries/assignees are sent either by cheque or money order. Sometimes the cheques are not encashed or the money orders are returned undelivered;

(ii) Death claims outstanding for five years or more which could not be settled due to non-receipt of requirements, court cases etc. and maturity claims outstanding for more than five years which are not claimed by the policyholders or claims outstanding for more than one year which are not received by the policyholder at the given address, proposal deposits which are outstanding for two years or more or policy deposits which are outstanding for four years or more from the date of collection and the amounts lying unpaid for more than four years in respect of annuities due and unpaid.

(c) LIC makes best efforts to trace the individuals and settle the claims or make the payments due to them. However, in certain cases, inspite of regular follow-up, necessary requirements for settling the claims are not received by them from the policyholders and/or there is no prospect of settlement of claim in the near future on account of non-receipt of claim requirements, court disputes etc. It will be observed that the net written back amount transferred to Life Fund during the year as a percentage of total net addition to the Life Fund over the last one decade has come down from 0.43% to 0.27%.

दूरदर्शन के प्रसारण केन्द्र

*186. श्री मोहिन्दर सिंह कल्याण: क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय देश में राज्य-वार कुल कितने दूरदर्शन प्रसारण केन्द्र कार्य कर रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि देश में कुछ प्रसारण केन्द्र ठीक तरह से कार्य नहीं कर रहे हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कुछ प्रसारण केन्द्रों में कर्मचारियों की कमी महसूस की जा रही है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ङ) सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में उठाए गए कदमों का ब्यौरा क्या है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री तथा संचार मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): (क) ब्यौरा अनुबंध में दिया गया है। [देखिए परिशिष्ट 184, अनुपत्र संख्या 43]

(ख) और (ग) जी, हां।

(घ) और (ङ) इन केन्द्रों के लिए स्टॉफ की भर्ती तथा तैनाती प्रसार भारती द्वारा की जाती है।